



The Southwester

Serving the Southwest and Capitol Riverfront Communities

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With 32 consecutive wins and back-to-back perfect seasons, the Washington Kastles return to the Southwest Waterfront this month on the cusp of making history.

The three-time World TeamTennis champion Kastles have already surpassed the longest winning streaks in NFL, MLB, NHL, WNBA and MLS history. The 1971-72 Los Angeles Lakers won 33 straight NBA games, but that mark is in jeopardy this month.

Venus Williams leads the Kastles in a pair of must-see home matches to start the season - against the New York Sportimes on July 8th and the Boston Lobsters on July 9th. Should the Kastles beat both the Sportimes and Lobsters, they will run their winning streak to 34 and pass the Lakers' longstanding record.

Leander Paes, Bobby Reynolds, Anastasia Rodionova and Coach Murphy Jensen are all returning from Washington's 2012 championship team. They will be joined by reigning WTT Female MVP and former singles and doubles World No. 1 Martina Hingis for matches July 15-24. But the competition coming to DC is fierce, highlighted by Andy Roddick of the Springfield Lasers on July 11th.

Washington is 14-0 at Kastles Stadium at The Wharf since the venue's debut on July 5th, 2011, with tens of thousands of fans flocking to the Southwest Waterfront for world-class ten-

Kastles Look to Make History!



Washington Kastles celebrate.

nis. The Kastles will be counting on the same home-court advantage this season, beginning on July 8th.

All fans in attendance on opening night will

receive a complimentary Kastles championship T-shirt, courtesy of GEICO.

If history is any indication, Win No. 33 in a row won't come easy for the Kastles. Six prior

matches between Washington and New York have ended in a Supertiebreaker, including three during the Kastles' current unbeaten run. Washington saved a combined 10 match points to sweep the Sportimes in those matches.

Venus Williams and the Kastles return one night later on July 9th for a potential record-breaking match with the Lobsters. Washington is 10-0 all-time with Williams in the lineup, which bodes well for the Kastles as they play to extend their winning streak into the history books.

In Washington's third home match of the season, former World No. 1 and US Open champion Andy Roddick heads the Springfield Lasers against the Kastles on July 11th. Roddick went 30-6 with three titles at DC's Citi Open, where he routinely played to sold-out crowds. His debut at Kastles Stadium should be no different, so you'll want to get your tickets before it's too late.

Washington welcomes Martina Hingis to the team July 15-24 for the final four home matches of the regular season. The former Sportime led the league the last two seasons in women's singles with a 20-4 record, defeating World No. 1 Serena Williams and 11 other players currently ranked in the WTA Top 200.

The Eastern and Western Conference teams that finish the regular season with the best

See "Kastles," page 6

Southwest Community Gardens Build Day

By Sam Marrero

Be sure to reserve Wednesday, July 31st on your calendar and come to Lansburgh Park to give a hand in building Southwest's newest community garden.

To be constructed on an undeveloped 4,958 square foot swath of Lansburgh Park, the new Southwest Community Gardens was selected from over 400 qualified applicants as the Fiskars 2013 Project Orange Thumb recipient. On the July 31st Gardens Build Day, check-in and breakfast will start at 7:00 a.m. and the first 50 volunteers will be provided with t-shirts.

If you have not yet done so, all volunteers must register at www.swgardens.org. Volunteers are asked to stay all day if possible, from first dig at 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Fiskars will provide breakfast and lunch, and at 4:00 p.m. there will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony and celebration of the newly built garden.

"We are so excited to build a new garden in Southwest DC. As development continues to change our neighborhood, we want this garden to be a place where diversity is protected and everyone is welcome. The garden will be a posi-

See "Gardens," page 6



Artist's rendering of new waterfront.

Three Billion Dollar Makeover for Southwest Underway – How Did It All Start?

By Kael Anderson, President, Southwest Neighborhood Assembly

Nearly 20 years ago Southwest's largest landlord, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), announced it was moving its 4,500 employees

out of its headquarters in the heart of Southwest.

The shock of this announcement roused the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (Assembly), as the SW locally elected civic association, to undertake an exhaustive year-

long research effort.

Southwest's Town Center, later known as Waterside Mall and Waterfront Station had been designed as a regional shopping and employment center, but by the time it was

See "Makeover," page 7

St. Dominic Celebrates Installation of New Altarpiece

Thanks to a very generous donor, St. Dominic Catholic Church was able to complete the installation of a magnificent, wood-paneled altarpiece, also known as a reredos. The word “reredos” comes from Latin meaning “wall behind the altar.” At the center of the reredos is a gothic tabernacle that is 9 feet tall. Consistent with the original gothic architectural design of the church, the reredos provides a splendid aesthetic for the Catholic mass. The original reredos was dismantled in the 1960s after being damaged by termites. This restoration of the sanctuary provides a beautiful centerpiece of ritual and liturgy that will inspire all who enter the church.

The installation of the new reredos marks the continuation of the parish's efforts to restore the historic church, now over 160 years old, and the sixth oldest in the Archdiocese of Washington, DC. Last year, the church installed a new altar of sacrifice, also in keeping with the church's gothic design. The beautiful wood-paneled altar depicts St. Dominic and a number of Dominican saints. The marble baptismal font is currently being restored. During the summer, the church will repair and paint the window frames around all the stained glass windows and then make structural repairs to the steeple.

The historic church, which has been a landmark in the Southwest since it was dedicated in 1875, features 24 stained glass windows that illustrate important events in the life of the church's patron St. Dominic (ca. 1171-1221). At



St. Dominic's New Altarpiece.

the bottom of each window a Dominican saint is shown. Other attractive windows depict themes and images integral to the Dominican religious order. The distinctive tall, green steeple pierces the Southwest DC skyline and attracts the attention of drivers coming over the 14th Street bridge from northern Virginia.

The reredos was fabricated by Mountain

View Millworks in West Virginia and then delivered and installed in St. Dominic during the month of May. The parish also removed the red carpeting from all the aisles and refinished the original terrazzo tile floors. People are welcome to the parish's weekday (8:00 a.m. & 12:10 p.m.) and weekend masses (Saturdays - 5:15 p.m. and Sundays - 8:00 a.m., 10:45 a.m., & 5:15 p.m.).

Dogs Don't Have Thumbs

By Kate Renner

A Message from the PAWS of SW Dog Park Group

Breaking news: Dogs don't have thumbs! They need help opening cans of dog food and turning round door handles. They also need help scooping up their poop.

Dog poop is not compostable, nor is it a fertilizer (In general poop from any carnivore is not effective as a fertilizer). No one wants to step in it either. Dog poop can harbor bacteria that can spread to wildlife, waterways, and even humans.

If you have a problem with touching warm poop or can't stand the smell, or just don't purchase bags, you can purchase a pooper scooper. It may be cumbersome to carry around, but you won't have to touch the poop. Cleaning up your dog's poop not only shows others that you care about the neighborhood, but also helps to make the neighborhood a better place for all of us to enjoy.

Simply put: Dogs don't have thumbs. It's up to you pick up the poop.

PAWS of SW will be hosting “We Love Southwest Too – Please Pick Up Your Poo” - a dog poop clean up day on July 13th at 9am. We will be meeting at the duck pond. Everyone is encouraged to come out and help. We will pick up trash in addition to abandoned poo piles. Please see PawsofSW.org for more information.



WASHINGTON KASTLES

2012 | 2011 | 2009 | WTT CHAMPIONS

BACK-TO-BACK UNDEFEATED SEASONS

32 STRAIGHT WINS



VENUS WILLIAMS



MARTINA HINGIS



LEANDER PAES



BOBBY REYNOLDS

ON THE BRINK OF HISTORY

TICKETS STARTING AT \$15

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<p>SATURDAY, JULY 20</p> <p>New York Sportimes MARTINA HINGIS USTA FAMILY NIGHT</p>	<p>MONDAY, JULY 22</p> <p>Philadelphia Freedoms MARTINA HINGIS MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT  Free Kastles camo hat for first 1,000 fans</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, JULY 24</p> <p>Boston Lobsters MARTINA HINGIS</p>	<p>THURSDAY, JULY 25</p> <p>EASTERN CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP POTENTIALLY PLAYED AT KASTLES STADIUM</p>	<p>SUNDAY, JULY 28</p> <p>MYLAN WTT FINALS PRESENTED BY GEICO POTENTIALLY PLAYED AT KASTLES STADIUM *All matches start at 7pm</p>

USE CODE SWDC10 FOR 10% OFF AT ticketmaster OR CALL 202-397-7328

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BOXES, GROUPS AND SEASON TICKETS CALL 202-4-TENNIS (483-6647) OR VISIT WASHINGTONKASTLES.COM





OPED: We Deserve Statehood

Dear Neighbors,

We are the citizens of the District of Columbia, and on Flag Day 2013, we want to say clearly that *we deserve statehood*. We are your fellow Americans, your neighbors, your brothers and sisters, your fathers and mothers, your long-lost cousins, and the people who help you with directions when you're lost on the subway while visiting Washington, DC with your family. You may never know us by name, but we are just like you. We live in single family homes, row houses, and apartments. We work in the private sector, the public sector, and for non-profits trying to do good for our community and our country. We enjoy life and we overcome life's challenges. We believe in the promise of America; we believe that we all are created equal; we believe in rule of law; and we believe in a government of, for, and by the people.

Our government, however, repeatedly tells and shows us that it has no place for us. We pay federal taxes but have no say on how that money is spent. We send our children off to war yet are denied representation to vote on issues of war or peace. Rather, those whom we do not elect to the House and Senate can override the most basic decisions of our own locally elected officials. We fulfill all of the obligations of American citizenship yet we are denied its most basic tenet. We know that the great American democratic experiment cannot be complete until the people who live in the shadows of the U.S. Capitol are granted full and equal representation within it.

Today, on Flag Day 2013, we the citizens of the District of Columbia are holding our flag up proudly to send a message to our family, friends, and neighbors in the 50 states. We need your help and your voice to speak up and speak

out in support of statehood for the residential and commercial portions of the District of Columbia. The Constitution sets an upper limit on the size of the federal district, but no lower; thus DC statehood is indeed valid under the Constitution. There is presently a statehood bill in both the House (HR 292) and the Senate (S 132). We ask you to show your support for DC statehood by contacting your members of the House and Senate today to tell them that the citizens of the District of Columbia deserve to be a state because:

The District of Columbia is the only political and geographical entity within the United States of America whose citizens bear the responsibilities of citizenship, including taxation and Selective Service registration, without sharing in the full rights and privileges of citizenship.

Over 192,000 citizens of the District have fought in our armed forces in service to our nation in every war and foreign conflict.

In Fiscal Year 2012, District residents and businesses paid \$20.7 billion in federal taxes; more than the taxes collected from 19 states and the highest federal taxes per capita.

The District balanced its budget every year since Fiscal Year 1997 yet Congress and the President have restricted the District from spending local tax dollars as our elected Council and Mayor have directed.

The District government receives less federal funds as a percentage of its budget than Mississippi, Louisiana, New Mexico, and North Dakota, and is on par with Alabama, Montana, Vermont, and West Virginia.

The District has a population of more than 632,000 people, which is a larger population than Wyoming and Vermont.

The Congress has final approval on all District laws, unlike any other jurisdiction in the country.

District residents are subject to all of the laws of the United States, as well as treaties made with foreign governments, without ever having consented through Congressional representation to such laws.

Congress can repeal the Home Rule Act of 1973 and our limited self-governance, but cannot redefine or repeal Statehood.

In the only public referendum on the issue in 1980, over 60% of District citizens voted in



favor of statehood.

Statehood is the only way to grant and guarantee the citizens of the District irrevocable and inalienable rights to full citizenship.

The citizens of the District of Columbia deserve respect, we deserve equality, and we deserve statehood. Please join with us on Flag

Day and every day to stand up for statehood for the citizens of the District of Columbia. We love our flag and we deserve to be the 51st star on the American Flag.

Many thanks,
Neighbors United for DC Statehood
unitedforstatehood@gmail.com

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To contact the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc., please leave a message at 202-580-8188.

Humor: Never Buy Fish from the Clearance Bin

By D. Sherwood Chamberlain

There is an old proverb that says, "With age comes wisdom." I'm still waiting. Perhaps I'll wake up one morning having been whacked across the head by a cosmic two-by-four, suddenly knowing the meaning of life and the secrets of the universe. Until that happens, I merrily muddle through life acquiring a bit of knowledge and experience along the way.

Much of my life experience has been practical and good advice worthy of passing along to succeeding generations. Things like the fact that wine in a box can be rather tasty, and that nothing good ever comes from putting celery in a garbage disposal or buying fish from the clearance bin.

Since I have officially graduated from Middle-Ager to Senior Citizen, I have to admit I'm enjoying it. There are certain benefits and quite a lot of freedom that come with getting old.

The anxiety of being politically correct and being held hostage to the heritage of my southern manners were very taxing, so I no longer censor myself before I speak. One afternoon while standing on the Metro platform waiting for the Green Line train, I noticed a well-dressed, middle-aged

man looking at the Metro map. He turned to me and asked if I knew how he could get to the Senate. I suggested he might start by running for his local school board.

The stress of sitting quietly in my seat smiling feebly at my fellow passengers when my flight hits severe turbulence is long gone. I now scream "We're all going to die!" or something else suitable to the situation.

I have also become more realistic about time management. Instead of agonizing over things I need to do, I only list items I have already accomplished.

Comfort is one of the most freeing aspects of being elderly. I ultimately accepted the certainty that I was doomed to lose my ongoing battle with gravity. I blissfully surrendered, replacing unflattering and unforgiving spandex with cool cotton skirts and blouses.

The desire for long lean calves accentuated by three inch heels is not only impractical but hazardous for us elderly ladies. What I now look for in a shoe is support and good traction. Recently, while enjoying breakfast at a neighborhood diner, I noticed the waitress had cut holes in her white

canvas shoes to accommodate her bunions. At first I was somewhat amused but then I thought, "That woman is positively genius." I took scissors to my own canvas shoe and painstakingly cut a hole exactly the size of the bunion on my right foot liberating it from a dungeon of torture. When I wear socks the same color as my shoes the hole is hardly noticeable.

I am convinced pantyhose were invented by Satan himself as a method of torture more ghastly than the fiery pit of Hades. The decades of torment I endured struggling to get into those excruciating and expensive nylon stockings easily qualified me to be a contortionist with Cirque du Soleil. My enlightened elderly status gave me permission to cast off my last pair of pantyhose, joyfully replacing them with dense knee high stockings beneficial for good circulation.

Since I no longer wear sheer stockings my emancipation from the dreaded razor has been enjoyable. But confidentially, old ladies rarely shave above the knee anyway, unless we're expecting company.

■ D. Sherwood Chamberlain is a professional speaker and writer specializing in the history of America's First Ladies. You can view her website at: <http://www.deborahjonessherwood.com>

Doing Good: Paul “Big South” Taylor, Legendary Community Hero

By Wallace Perry, Retired Roving Leader

Every afternoon around 3:45pm the kids hurry to the recreation center to start their after school program and almost daily they are greeted by a towering 6-foot-7-inch man with long, silver-lined dreadlocks known as Paul “Big South” Taylor. One by one they acknowledge him as “South” while signing in as they proceed to the designated homework area.

Big South has helped to transform King-Greenleaf Recreation Center into one of the most utilized and productive sites in the city. Not so long ago the center was underutilized as well as centered in a highly crime ridden area of our community. With innovative programming and partnerships with such organizations as Sasha Bruce, Roving Leaders, and local law enforcement (First District), this recreation center is now a safe haven for our youth and has evolved into a modern marvel. Paul believes that



Paul Taylor with Youth

all youth deserve a right to have a local outlet to go to and exercise with leisure, just as he did

social media to promote positive energy, such as who has been accepted into college and expected graduates and graduations. I have listened to discussions about the rationale behind material values. For example, expensive tennis shoes and \$300 cell phones, as opposed to owning a computer. Big South talks about taking advantage of opportunities in life that are within the control of our young people. He encourages our youth to commit to seeing themselves as the conscious creators of their own destiny. Regularly I bear witness to his enlightenment and impression on our youth as to the importance of education being the key to self-improvement, and becoming a productive person in society. Undoubtedly, Big South has the uncanny ability to capture the attention of our youth in a way that is genuine and heartfelt.

Paul has dedicated his life to serving the youth in our community because he understands the importance of nurturing young people to become productive early on in life. Big South knows that everyone makes mistakes - he admits that he made his own mistakes in his youth - but has pledged to give back to the youth in his community by being a positive role model.

There is no shortage of youth in the Southwest community, however, there is a shortage of dedicated adults needed to help serve them. We ask that all adults take time to volunteer at the local community center, regardless of the misconceptions of uncontrollable teenagers. We ask that we come together as one community to bridge that generation gap. Not with preconceived, prejudiced dispositions, but with a mindset willing to learn from and help one another.

Big South is now employed as a Recreation Specialist at King-Greenleaf Recreation Center. He also serves as the President of the revitalized Southwest Family Unity Day Committee. Rightfully so, this is how it should be: a hard-working gentle giant with a gentlemen's touch.

coming up as a youth at the #4 Boys/Girls Club and the old King-Greenleaf Recreation Center. Paul is the founder and CEO of the SW Youth Foundation (SWYF) - an organization that provides an array of mentoring, educational, and recreational activities for SW youth. Since its inception in 2007, the SWYF has provided job opportunities for over 50 youth and young adults. In 2010 SWYF landed a community grant that initiated the well known “Groups and Hoops” program that provide workshops on life skills, resume writing, keynote speakers, healthy living, and a late night summer basketball tournament.

I have had the pleasure to sit in on some of the life-skill sessions with the Groups and Hoops participants. The subject matter was open and interesting with lots of enthusiastic participation. Every discussion is solution oriented, and coated with an awareness for change. They talked about the negativity in usage of social media such as Facebook and the problem with online bullying. Alternatives would be to use

Amidon Playground Ribbon Cutting



“A dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony was held at Amidon-Bowen Playground on June 14, 2013. Immediately following the ribbon cutting, the whole school got to spend the morning on the playground for their end of school year field day. New soccer balls were donated to the school by Mayor Gray and Councilmember Tommy Wells. Pictured above are (L-R): DGS Director Brian Hanlon representing Mayor Gray, Principal Miller, Ward 6 Councilmember Tommy Wells, Coach Briscoe, Bruce DarConte, and children from Amidon-Bowen sports teams. By Martin Welles, PTA President”



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Applications for grants may be submitted at any time to the above address.

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MAKING WAVES AT THE WHARF

*July is jumpin' with
FREE events on the
Southwest Waterfront at
the 7th Street Landing*

Beverages and refreshments are available for purchase from Cantina Marina's Snack Shack. King Ribs Bar-B-Q with Grillmaster Bufus will offer tasty-to-the-bone grilled fare. Summer fun also includes table tennis, bean baggo and free WIFI.

THE WHARF
7th and Water Streets, SW
wharfdc.com

THURSDAYS - Waterfront Jazz and Blues: 6-8:00pm

- July 4 Memphis Gold
- July 11 The Nighthawks
- July 18 Thad Wilson Quartet
- July 25 Ernie Douglas Jazz Ensemble

FRIDAYS - Summer Sounds: 6-8:00pm

- July 5 Calypso Nuts (Beach)
- July 12 The Joe Vex Band (Soul and Rock)
- July 19 Wil Gravatt Band (Country)
- July 26 Memphis 59 (Roots Rock)

SATURDAYS - Workout Beside the Water: 9-11:30am

- July 6 YaLa Fitness (9am) and Flow Yoga (10:30am)
- July 13 YaLa Fitness (9am) and Flow Yoga (10:30am)
- July 20 YaLa Fitness (9am) and Flow Yoga (10:30am)
- July 27 YaLa Fitness (9am) and Flow Yoga (10:30am)

WHARF

Waterfront Jazz and Blues is produced with the support of Jazz Night in Southwest in partnership with Westminster Presbyterian Church. Sounds of Summer is produced with support of Gangplank Marina and Gravatt Entertainment. Workout Beside the Water is a collaboration of YaLa Fitness with Laurent Amzallag and Flow Yoga's Istar Guven. The Wharf is within four blocks of the L' Enfant Plaza and Waterfront Metrorail stops. Capital Bikeshare is located at 700 Water Street, SW. Making Waves at The Wharf is free and presented by Hoffman-Madison Waterfront, developers of the new, world-class, mixed-use waterfront. More information is online at www.wharfdc.com or at 202-688-3590.



Urban Photography Series Offers Workshops and Tours

By Sheila Wickowski

The Historical Society of Washington DC is holding a summer Urban Photography series that will feature photography workshops and walking tours throughout the city.

Photography is key in recording visual history by documenting changes in DC neighborhoods block-by-block over many decades. Photos taken by participants in these workshop-tours will be featured in an online exhibit later this year. Also the new images may be added to the the current collection of over 100,000 photographs that illustrate the history of Washington.

While the first tour of the Southwest neigh-

borhood in August filled up immediately, Collections Manager Anne McDonough said that The Historical Society plans to hold more in the future.

The aim, she stated, is threefold: "To introduce our historic photo collections to those who don't know them, to capture for posterity neighborhoods around the city at a point in time, and to inspire photographers (pro and amateur alike)

to continue to document their city and consider The Historical Society a possible repository for their work, to be held in trust for future generations of researchers."

To follow these events and to learn more about this project, visit on the web <http://www.historydc.org/events/photoseries.aspx> or <https://twitter.com/DCHistory> or <https://www.facebook.com/historydc>



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DC Cancer Consortium is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization registered in the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Southwest Duck Pond Celebrity Chef Cooking Demonstration

The Neighbors of Southwest Duck Pond are pleased to announce the return of cooking demonstrations to the Park in conjunction with Little Farm Stand Saturdays. July 25th will be the inaugural outing this season and we have secured the participation of local celebrity chef Orlando Amaro of Station 4 Restaurant, Southwest's popular dining spot.

The demonstration will be strictly tied to the produce available that week at The Little Farm Stand, which will then allow neighbors to try

these very same dishes at home. Recipe cards will be made available.

Please join us for the return of this popular event, the first of the summer. NSWDP plans to host cooking demonstrations once a month this season. Future chefs to be announced.

The Neighbors of Southwest Duck Pond thank Station 4 for their enthusiastic participation and look forward to sampling the Mediterranean flair Chef Amaro will bring to locally grown Virginia produce.

GARDENS

From p. 1

tive, therapeutic, relaxing space where anyone in the community can come to connect with others, feel respected, and learn about gardening," says Kamilla Kovacs, Southwest Community Gardens President.

"The new garden will give Southwest Community Gardens a space for educational opportunities to help people understand how to grow their own food and promote a healthy and active lifestyle," says Ally Spaight, a Fiskars Representative.

Adds Kael Anderson, SWNA president, "We're eagerly looking forward to July 31st. For decades, Lansburgh Park has been an underutilized liability for those living nearby or passing through. The establishment of Southwest Community Gardens represents another major step toward the revitalization of Lansburgh Park."

Garden Manager Coy McKinney offers the following: "Once neighbors are connected, discussions, mutual understandings, and action can follow. We conduct outreach to the residents in public housing, since their voices are often excluded and development comes at their expense, about how they would like to use the space, and what kind of projects or activities they think would be beneficial."

McKinney is particularly excited about the garden's communal section, a hands-on educational space where neighbors can labor together. "The communal section of the garden can host projects, workshops, and activities for the community, and will have the purpose of collectively growing free vegetables for the neighborhood."

Be on the lookout for another weekend metro stop bake sale from the Southwest Community Gardens planning team in the weeks before Garden Build Day.

KASTLES

From p. 1

records will host their respective conference championship matches on July 25, with the Eastern Conference champion hosting the WTT Finals on July 28.

That means that Kastles Stadium at The Wharf could play host to the Eastern Conference Championship match and the Finals, which would make for a total of nine matches on the Southwest Waterfront this summer.

Children 16-and-under are invited to come onto the court and get autographs from all home and visiting players after each match. The Kastles' popular racquet giveaway program will continue for a sixth straight season, providing children at all home matches with a free junior racquet, based on availability.

No seat inside the intimate Kastles Stadium is further than 15 rows from the court, and tickets start at only \$15 through Ticketmaster.com. All seven home matches during the regular season begin at 7:00 p.m.

Members of the Southwest community can enjoy a 10% discount by entering the code **SWDC10**.

PSA 105 Meeting Notes

For Southwest residents, the following are primary sources of information about crime and safety:

PSA 105 Lt Nicholas Gallucci and/or Sgt. Michael Architzel, meet with the SW community each month to discuss crime trends and answer community questions. Currently, 1D Commander Daniel Hickson is seeking an individual or community organization to assume sponsorship and scheduling of the monthly meetings. In the interim, PSA 105 monthly meetings (no meeting in August) will be held in the 1D Headquarters Community Room at 101 M St SW. Residents should subscribe to the First Police District (1D) list-serve for details about upcoming meetings (Email: mpd-1d-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

Anyone with a computer or SmartPhone can obtain up-to-date crime statistics for an entire police district (e.g. 1D), a PSA (e.g. 105), or a specific address at <http://www.crimemap.dc.gov>. The webpage is easy to use.

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MAKEOVER

From p. 1

built, shopping and transportation patterns had shifted. Nonetheless the EPA's presence stabilized the retail establishment. But by the 1990s, less than half of the retail space was leased, and Waterside Mall wasn't the only issue. The community particularly recognized that its waterfront was a tremendous underutilized resource.

The Assembly commenced a campaign for Southwest residents to take control of their future. Before an audience of over 200 residents assembled at St. Augustine's, the Assembly announced its resolution to engage an Urban Land Institute (ULI) Panel to prepare a comprehensive study focused on Waterside Mall, the Waterfront, and the Maine Avenue/M Street corridor.

The only hitch was ULI's \$100,000 fee.

But in an "unheard of 55 days," an Assembly committee raised \$160,000 from a broad coalition of Southwest residential complexes, businesses, and individuals. It came to be known as the \$100,000 Miracle.

The ULI Panel analyzed the problems, researched the market potential, explored urban design issues, and solicited community input. As advertised in the March 1998 Southwester, the process was highlighted by a "Community Reception" at the Spirit of Washington.

ULI's recommendations were unveiled at the Rayburn Building's Gold Room, before various dignitaries including Eleanor Holmes Norton. The thirteen development

strategies as outlined in a 1998 Assembly brochure included:

- Reuniting the two halves of 4th Street by opening up Waterside Mall. A completely new Main Street-oriented retail center will have the kinds of places that enhance the quality of life – stores that serve community needs...
- A festive Waterfront marketplace, concentrating 200,000 square feet of restaurants, specialty retail and entertainment along a new pedestrian promenade on Water Street
- More convenient, safe parking for the retail centers as well as Arena Stage, and Southeastern University.
- A program of historic markers and statues to explain famous sites and commemorate significant events; a system of signs and distinctive graphics to improve directions in the neighborhood water taxis linking the Southwest Waterfront to Georgetown's Washington Harbour, Alexandria, and locations on the Anacostia River
- A shuttle bus system to expedite the transportation of tourists, workers, shoppers and local residents to and from the National Mall, Pennsylvania Avenue, the Navy Yard, Waterside Mall and the waterfront
- A standard of architectural excellence for the half million square feet of new construction that will be

built in the next few years

- A new identity and marketing initiative

Dozens of community meetings later, including a record-setting forum jointly-held with the ANC at the Mandarin Oriental in 2011, we have a new waterfront and town center underway.

The secondary recommendations are also in various stages of implementation. The Assembly worked with Cultural Tourism to install the Southwest Heritage Trail in 2004. This past year we came to an agreement with the ANC and Waterfront developers to update and expand the Trail beginning this year. The Assembly transformed Southwest's historic call boxes into commemorative art. And with programs like Titanic 100, SW Artsfest, Arena Stage, and the Rubell's planned cultural center, Southwest is becoming increasingly branded as a waterfront and cultural destination.

Transportation improvements have also occurred. Ferries now serve the SW Waterfront, the Circulator system was inaugurated in 2005, and while everyone regrets the system was pulled from Southwest in 2011, we're looking forward to its reestablishment in SW next year. Please come to the semi-annual Circulator meeting on June 18th at the Studio Theater or send your comments to spring.worth@dc.gov.

So with these developments materializing, the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly welcomes the next evolution of neighborhood planning, the Small Area Plan.

CBCC's SW Playground Project Moves Forward With Plans to Complete by this Fall

By Felicia Coutts, Project Manager

On behalf of the Near SE/SW Community Benefits Coordinating Council, I'm excited to provide you with an update on the SW Playground Project.

In February, our ANC6D unanimously approved our LAB architect's final design and proposed concept for infrastructure upgrades and a playground at 3rd and I Streets SW.

Our team, which includes LAB, civil engineers, Wiles Mensch, and DC Parks and Recreation, have been working diligently over the last few months to prepare the construction documents needed to put the project out to bid for a contractor. The main issue involving the storm water and drainage system in the park that delayed us has finally been resolved.

The construction documents were turned over to DPR the first week in June and are set to be placed to bid. This process can take approximately 30-60 days. Once a certified contractor has been accepted, the permits will be pulled and the work will begin. We expect that the entire project will take approximately 6-8 weeks, and will be completed this Fall!

As Project Manager, I will continue to keep the community updated as we take each step through this process. The CBCC and SW Playground Project thank each of you for your continued support. It's been a long road, but it's finally happening!

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May Southwest Real Estate Update

I really think one of the leading indicators in our monthly chart is the average days on market. If you only watch that you will have a great idea about the pace of the market. A few weeks ago interest rates jumped dramatically and it will be very interesting to see what effect that will have on the market.

	May-13	May-12	%Change
Sold Dollar Volume	\$6,739,579	\$5,831,000	15.58%
Avg Sold Price	\$293,025	\$323,944	-9.54%
Median Sold Price	\$259,794	\$315,000	-17.53%
Units Sold	23	18	27.78%
Avg Days on Market	41	78	-47.44%
Avg List Price for Solds	\$292,852	\$330,739	-11.46%
Avg SP to OLP Ratio	98.6%	97.0%	1.67%

—Courtesy of Jason Martin, a real estate professional & resident of Southwest. He may be contacted by phone at (202) 641-0299 or by e-mail at jason@jasonmartingroup.com.



Rosslyn Dorsey Ferguson, a National from the start.

Loyal from the Very Start

By Ryan McGlynn

Almost nine years have come and gone since baseball returned to the nation's capital in 2005. Though the Washington Nationals have moved from Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium to Nationals Park during that time, a few game-day staffers like usher Rosslyn Dorsey Ferguson are proud to say they've been with the team since day one.

"I enjoy what I do, I take a lot of pride in what I do, and I look forward to working every game," Ferguson said.

Ferguson, a Washingtonian who has lived in various communities throughout the city, currently calls Southwest her home and has resided in the neighborhood for the past three years. She has spent nearly the same amount of time at what she considers her second home – sections 209 and 210 at Nationals Park – where she performs a variety of tasks, from keeping the areas clean to showing fans to their seats. Of course, making the fans feel at home at the ballpark is her most important priority.

"I am a season ticket holder and Rosslyn is the best [usher] in all my time coming to the ballpark," one fan said as he stopped to greet

Ferguson on the way to his seat.

Ferguson is quick to reciprocate these feelings toward the fans in her section and she admits that they have given her something special in return – a love for baseball.

"I found it very interesting that the fans bring you in; meaning, they enlighten and excite you about baseball and the game," Ferguson said. "Meeting the people and the fans, and being there to help them in anyway that I can is my favorite part of the job."

As Ferguson sees it, the club's move from RFK to Nationals Park has had an extremely positive effect on the Southwest community. "I moved here when they were still building the ballpark, so I watched the area grow and watched the fanbase grow," Ferguson said. This growth has come through the building of offices, apartments, and restaurants which she exclaims have really "brightened [the area] up!"

Her enthusiasm for her job has kept her coming back all these years, and as one of a select group of people who can say they've been part of the Nationals family since the very beginning, she has no intention of leaving.

"I love what I do and I plan to stay for as long as I possibly can," she proclaimed.

Summer School Open for K-8 DCPS

Free bus service will be provided for those children K-5 that are enrolled for summer school at Miner Elementary School (Amidon Bowen is not a summer site this year). Summer school starts July 1st (Monday) through August 2nd (Friday). The bus will depart at 7:35 AM in front of Amidon Bowen to arrive by 8 AM and return around 1:30 PM as school ends at 1 PM. If your child is staying in school until 5 PM, DCPS bus service is not available so they will need to use the Metro. **Want to enroll your child in Summer School?** Go online to dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/summer13 to register. **DO IT NOW** to secure a place for the summer! Call 202-478-5738 for more information on the K-5 DCPS Bus.

St. Dominic Church Gives New Books to Amidon Students

St. Dominic Catholic Church has donated 102 new books to young readers at Amidon Elementary School. The books cover a wide range of topics, including rain forests, sports, and geology. The purpose of the program is to help families build home libraries and encourage children to read over the summer break. Last year, the church gave 65 new books to second grade Amidon students.

"The parish is pleased to provide reading

material to children in the Southwest community," said St. Dominic Pastor George Schommer. "This program began last year after several teachers in the parish suggested giving books to children as a way to encourage literacy and good reading habits. We believe that cultivating good reading habits now will help these children succeed in school as they get older."

For additional information, please contact social@stdominicchurch.org.

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- ▲ Information evening: Tuesday, September 3 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Dominic Parish Meeting Room, 630 E Street, SW (lower level)
- ▲ Regular teaching evenings continue on Tuesday evenings beginning Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. and continue through Tuesday June 3, 2014. Location: St. Dominic Parish Meeting Room, 630 E Street, SW (lower level)

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ANC 6D: Meeting Report

By B. K. Lunde

At the June Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D meeting, officers from the Owners association of Waterfront Tower spoke. They asked the Commission to support the nomination for Historic Landmark designation by the D.C. Historic Preservation Review Board. The Commission did vote unanimously to support the nomination. The Review Board will meet on June 27th. The History Task Force of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly had nominated Town Center East buildings and the surrounding land as a Historic Landmark.

Last month, the Bernstein Management Corporation asked the Commission to support their plan for a Planned Unit Development of the area around the same buildings. The development would have surrounded the buildings with 11 story apartment houses. At that time, the Commission voted to ask the Zoning Commission to postpone its meeting to consider the development. Then, the lawyer for the Bernstein Corporation rose and said that the Corporation would move for a postponement itself. The sales agreements for the Waterfront Towers condos from Bernstein had contained a clause that the owners would be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law if they objected to any plans for further development of the site.

About half the audience of over 100 people at the June ANC meeting were owners of those condos.

If the Historic Preservation Review Board agrees, the property will be included in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites and will be protected

by the DC Historic Landmark and Historic District Preservation Act of 1978. The Review Board will simultaneously consider the nomination of the property to the National Register of Historic Places.

A representative from the DC Historic Preservation Review Board said that Preservation does not mean you freeze a property in time. It does allow additional development compatible with the site, but any proposed development would have to pass the Historic Preservation Review Board.

Roger Moffatt will testify before the Historic Preservation Review Board on behalf of the ANC. Other interested persons should come and speak at the meeting.

Also at the meeting, Dan Guilbeault, from the Mayor's Sustainable DC initiative, told the Commissioners about the plan to cut the city wide obesity rate by 50%, attract 250,000 new residents, cut greenhouse gas emissions by 50%, make 75% of all trips by walking, biking, or transit, and achieve zero waste, by 2032. The web site is <http://sustainable.dc.gov>.

Eve Brooks of the Community Benefits Coordinating Council announced the reopening of the Randall Recreation Center on July 1. The center will be open from 4 to 9 p.m. on weekdays and also on Saturdays. Activities for teens and their siblings will dominate weekdays. Volunteer opportunities abound. Leaders are needed for arts, dance, crafts, photography, computer skills, yoga, Zumba, literacy, creative writing, games, front desk help, scheduling, programming, communication assistance, fundraising, and to be leaders for young children. The

summer programs will run until August 23, and there are plans for continuing all year. Contact the volunteer Coordinator George Burton at GWBurton@sashabruce.org. If you want more information, contact Vera Johnson at VJohnson@sashabruce.org.

Carolyn Mitchell asked for the Commissioners' support of the refinancing of Channel Square Apartments on P St SW. The current owner wants to sell, and a Tenant Association has assigned its rights to the National Housing Trust – Enterprise Preservation Corp, in partnership with Somerset Development Co. to purchase it and keep the rents low. Ms. Mitchell is looking for grants to help the present residents keep living there. The Commission agreed to send a support letter to Michael Kelly, Director, DC Department of Housing and Community Development.

Mohammed Ali asked the Commissioners to support the proposed Camden South Capitol Program to favor Southwest residents. He and former ANC Commissioner David Sobelsohn had negotiated a favorable treatment for our area residents to rent apartments in the new Camden South Capitol building, across from the Ballpark. Mr. Ali told the Commissioners that the negotiated agreement could not be carried out because of "fair housing." Instead, Ward 6 residents were to be given a \$250 move-in rebate. The Commission agreed to this. Without the agreement of the ANC, the building could not get its Certificate of Occupancy and actually open. Forty units have already been rented. Rhonda Hamilton is going to write the letter of support.

Juan Thompson told the Commissioners about available volunteer opportunities, including Community Emergency Response Teams. He wants to train people all over the city to respond to emergencies, for example, Arena Stage ushers and staff.

Donna Hopkins, Ed Kaminski, Andy Litsky, and David Garber voted to support the variances necessary for Chris French to build a third floor on his house at 929 5th St SE. Roger Moffatt and Ron McBee opposed it, and Rhonda Hamilton abstained from voting. This item was carried over from the May meeting at the request of the Commissioners. Mr. French had dropped his plans for a two-foot extension in the rear of his property. He had informed more people of his plans and had more support from his neighbors, several of whom were at the meeting.

The Commission unanimously approved a design change for a development north of the Ballpark. They approved design before but a lot between it and the Ballpark caused a need to change the design.

The Commissioners also approved a request by Bridget Gonzales Young to let dogs swim in the Randall pool at the very end of summer, after it is closed to people and before it is drained.

Several liquor licenses were routinely supported, including ones for Osteria Morini, Nicoletta, and Agua 301, which are all new restaurants coming to 301 Water St SE.

The Commissioners spent about an hour discussing a liquor license for Riverfront at the Ballpark at the site between the Ballpark and the Anacostia River. This month, the company

See "Report," page 11

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*Source: Preventable Risk Factors Attributed to Preventable Causes of Death in the District of Columbia, 2007, Department of Health Center for Policy, Planning, and Epidemiology, State Center for Health Statistics

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JULY

MON 1 @ 7-8:30 P.M. PAWS of Southwest. The July monthly meeting is open to the public in the downstairs community room of in the **SW Neighborhood Library**. Also find us at **PAWS of Southwest** on Facebook.

WED 3 @ 5:30 PM. Summer Readings with the SW Neighborhood Library, Beneath the Surface: South-east D.C. meets Asia. This workshop/performance with Christylez Bacon and Nistha Raj will present genres of music native to their cultural upbringings reflecting on hip-hop and Hindustani Classical music. For more information go to: <http://dclibrary.org/summerreading>.

FRI 5 @ 6:30 P.M. Potluck, 7 P.M. Games. St Augustine’s Game Night. Bring a potluck dish to share. Board and card games provided, but feel free to bring your own games, too. All ages welcome. St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church, 600 M St SW, 202-554-3222 www.staugustinesdc.org or rector@staugustinesdc.org

SAT 6 @ 4-5:30 P.M. Experience Yoga Nidra: Westminster Presbyterian Church. Pamela Wilson guides a very deep, conscious relaxation with the opportunity to set your intention. No experience in Yoga or meditation necessary. A donation of \$10 is suggested. For more information call 202-746-6654 or email: wilsonpj108@verizon.net

MON 8-FRI 12 @ 3-4 P.M. Science in the Summer, 2nd and 3rd grades. Pre-registration required. July 29th-Aug 2nd for 4th -6th grades. Please call SW Neighborhood Library for registration information 202-724-4752.

MON 8 @ 6-8 P.M. Game Night, SW Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Place SW. 202-724-4752.

MON 8 @ 7-10 P.M. ANC6D Monthly Business Meeting, 1100 4th St. SW, DCRA Hearing Room on 2nd floor.

WED 10 @ 6 P.M. Summer Readings with the SW Neighborhood Library: Global Lens Films Series: ‘Cairo 678’ This is for Adult & Teens. Series directed by Mohamed Diab. Egypt, 2010, Arabic with subtitles in English.

SAT 13 @ 10:30 A.M. Family Storytime, Enjoy stories, songs, fingerplays and other activities, suitable for toddlers and preschoolers from 18 months-3 years of age. SW Neighborhood Library.

Community Calendar

View our on-line calendar at www.swdc.org/calendar.

SAT 13 @ 11 A.M. Digging In: Clearing Clutter and Re-discovering Your Best Home & Office, SW Neighborhood Library. Judy Tiger, owner of DC-based Just That Simple, will share the basics of getting and staying organized. As she says, “Decluttering offers us the opportunity to dig into our lives, to rediscover what things are important to keep and to cultivate easy-to-manage, relaxing and productive spaces.” Come learn about her personalized, soothing, and nonjudgmental approach to clutter.

SAT 13 @ 12-1 P.M. Cooking Demo with Southwest Celebrity Chef Orlando Amato of Station 4, Little Farm Stand at the Duck Pond.

SUN 14 @ 4-5 P.M. Midsummer Night’s Dream: Yoga for Sound Sleep. This workshop will review some of the basics, including how to use gentle yoga stretches, breathing practices, and yoga nidra (deep relaxation) to promote sound sleep. A donation of \$10 is suggested. For more information, call 202-746-6654 or email wilsonpj108@verizon.net

THURS 18 Happy Hour with Neighbors of Southwest Duck Pond and Tee Shirt Sale at Gordon Biersch, 100 M St SE.

MON 22 @ 5:30 P.M. Summer Readings with the SW Neighborhood Library, Beneath the Surface: Lyric Workshop - Examining the Truths of Today’s Radio Artist. Attend this creative workshop and learn how to dissect your own realities and turn them into verse or song with the help of local spoken word poet Candice Danielle Iloh. Ages 13-19

MON 22 @ 6-8 P.M. Game Night, SW Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Place SW. 202-724-4752. Come play a host of Wii video games and enjoy a nice board game.

TUES 23 @ 1:30 P.M. Blue Sky Puppets, Toddlers and their caregivers, SW Neighborhood Library.

WED 24 @ 7:00 P.M. A Short Introduction to Muhammad. Join us for a lecture by Professor Jonathan

Brown of Georgetown University and discussion of his book. “The Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys” is a project of the National Endowment for the Humanities, conducted in cooperation with the American Library Association. Support was provided by a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. Additional support for the arts and media components was provided by the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art. SW Neighborhood Library.

THURS 25 @ 6-7:30 P.M. Community Open House and Ice Cream Social with Neighbors of Southwest Duck Pond and other community volunteer groups.

SAT 27 @ 1 P.M. Kitchen Table Book Discussion, SW Neighborhood Library. Copies of the July title, “The Color of Water” by James McBride, are available for checkout at the library.

WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

ADULTS/SENIORS BINGO BRUNCH, 1-3 P.M., Mondays and Thursdays, at King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N St SW. FREE

AEROBICS WITH Ms. Dee, 6:30-7:30 P.M., Mondays and Thursdays, at King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N St SW in the Multipurpose Room.

AYE COMMUNITY MARKETS, 9AM-1 P.M., Saturdays, Dreaming Out Loud is running the farmers market on the grounds of Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th St SW (near the Waterfront Metro green line).

BEACH BODY FIT CLUB, 6-7 P.M. Every Monday and Wednesday. St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church, 600 M St SW. Come workout to best-selling Beachbody fitness programs including P90X®, INSANITY® and TurboFire® with your favorite celebrity trainers like Tony Horton, Shaun T, and Chalene Johnson. People of all fitness levels are welcome, **FREE!** Questions contact Mary Scohera at 202-436-9743

BLUES MONDAYS, 6-9 P.M., Westminster Presbyterian

Church, 400 Eye St SW, Various Blues musicians and singers featured each Monday. \$5. Food for sale.

COMPUTER CLASSES, Thursday 10-12 Noon, SW Neighborhood Library

THURS 4 No Class

THURS 11 Microsoft Excel

THURS 18 Microsoft Powerpoint

THURS 25 No Class

AUGUST 1 Introduction to Personal Computers

FAMILY GAME NIGHT, WEDNESDAYS, SW Neighborhood Library. Come play a host of Wii video games and enjoy a nice board game. Call for times 202-4752

HAND DANCING CLASSES, SATURDAYS, 12-2 P.M., Jitterbug, Lindy Hop, Classes by Markus Smith of Swing Anatomy Dance. \$10/class for adults, \$5/class for children 8-17.**Christ United Methodist Church,** 900 4th St SW, Community room off Wesley Place SW.

HAND DANCING CLASSES, SATURDAYS, 12:45-3:45 P.M., King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N St SW. 202-645-7454

JAZZ NIGHT IN SW, FRIDAYS, 6-9 P.M. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye St SW. Various Jazz musicians and singers featured each Friday. \$5. Food for sale.

JOB SEEKERS PROGRAM, WEDNESDAYS 1-8:00 P.M. By Appointment Only. Call 202-724-4298 to schedule help with resumes, cover letters, applications and online services. SW Neighborhood Library.

LITTLE FARM STAND at the Duck Pond, 10 A.M.-2 P.M., Organic produce, baked goods and preserves from Loudoun County.

THE KIWANIS CLUB OF SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT, 6:30-7:30 P.M., every first and third Monday, Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th St SW.

POLICE SERVICE AREA 105, Community meeting, **7-8:30 P.M.,** every third Thursday, Location announced at previous meeting.

POLICE SERVICE AREA 106, Community meeting, **10-11 A.M.,** every last Saturday, Senior Citizen Community Room 900 5th St SE.

PRE SCHOOL STORYTIMES, 10:30-11:30 A.M., Tuesdays and Thursdays, featuring stories, songs, and fingerplays, suitable for children 18 mos.-3years. **2-2:30 P.M.** every Wednesday, **Read Aloud Book Club** for 8 years and up, SW Neighborhood Library

SEATED YOGA, 11:00-Noon on Mondays, and Wednesdays 4-5 P.M., Westminster Presbyterian Church. Pamela Wilson guides a gentle series of movements designed to free the joints and ease the mind. This is part of Westminster’s Wellness program.

SOUTHWEST RENEWAL AA, Alcoholics Anonymous group, **8:30 P.M.,** Mondays, St. Augustine’s Church, 600 M St SW, (202) 554-3222.

SUMMER READINGS WITH THE SW NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY, 5:30 P.M. Mondays 1st, 15th, & 29th

TEENS- BENEATH the Surface: Journaling Workshops. Explore and find out what’s Beneath the Surface in the Journaling Club. Teens will have an opportunity to create journals of their own. These workshops are designed to inspire youth to come together and express their thoughts and feelings through writing. Teens will be encouraged to write in their journals at least once a week and will have an opportunity to share their entries (if they feel comfortable). All supplies are provided. Ages 13-19

SW FREEWAY, NA, 7-8 P.M., Narcotics Anonymous group, Wednesdays, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye St SW.

TUESDAY WALK FOR WELLNESS while walking to music, 11-12 P.M. in the gym of King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N St SW.

WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTOR’S CLUB, 7-9 P.M., First and third Wednesday each month. Buy, trade, and sell stamps. Refreshments, auctions, and programs. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th St SW. 202-863-0564

WEDNESDAY EVENING CHESS, 6:30-8:30 P.M., SW Neighborhood Library.

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye St SW, **4 P.M.** Seated Yoga and Healing Sessions (Pamela Wilson and Riva Wine). **5 P.M.** Tai Chi (Manifest Ra). **5:30 P.M.** Laughter Yoga (Claire Trivedi). **6:45 P.M.** Sampoorna Yoga (Alex Rosen). **7 P.M.** Narcotics Anonymous SW Freeway Meeting.



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Randall Rec Center Seeks Volunteers

Can you teach a special skill? Are you an arts teacher? Do you love working with kids or teens? Do you know great dance steps, yoga, or performance skills? Are you able to support photography groups or other arts? If so, your skills and time are needed this summer at the Randall Recreation Center.

The long closed Randall Recreation Center will open on July 1st as the result of a year long community effort. Volunteers are needed in two hour periods from 4:30 through 8:00 pm Monday through Friday to add their talents to those of Sasha Bruce Youthwork's two person staffing.

With support of volunteers the 8,000 square foot facility can become a vital center of community building and arts programming. Its prime location, on the corner of South Capitol and I Street, can reach residents of Capitol IV and Greenleaf as well as the rapidly developing apartments near National's Park. Closed to the public since King Greenleaf Recreation Center was built, it will add recreation and meeting space not available at the King Greenleaf building, including a large dance floor, kitchen, children's play space, and a planned computer center.

Sasha Bruce Youthwork, a city-wide not-for-profit which has long been active in the Southwest, will oversee programming at Randall each weekday evening. The center will be open some Saturdays to accommodate programming. Sasha Bruce Youthworks, a Program Partner to the DC Department of Parks and Recreation, has the requisite insurance, skilled staff, and organizational infrastructure to take over the facility when the city is not providing direct staffing. Their staff for this effort is supported by grants from Telesis/Rubell, the developers of the Randall School property next door, the site of a planned contemporary art museum, and by community foundation and funding grants.

The opening of Randall is a genuine public-private partnership. This summer Randall Center will house two city-run Teen Career Pathway Summer Camps during the morning through late afternoon. The camp's career will focus on Visual Arts and fashion, and will serve a total of 50 youth ages 14-16 who are mostly residents of Southwest. Managed by the Department of Parks and Recreation Career Pathway programs developed in conjunction with Dept. of Employment Services is the Summer Youth Employment Program. The camps will run from July 1st through August 4th from 9 to

4 pm.

Sasha Bruce Youthworks will open the facility when the camps are over. Currently much of the late afternoon and evening programming will be oriented towards children and youth. However, space is available to add many activities for people of all ages. That is why the Advisory Committee is actively seeking volunteers with special skills and interests.

The Center will also host life skills discussions, mural making, chess lessons, physical fitness classes and hopefully yoga. Other activities will be added later. All volunteers will need to be qualified in their area of expertise under the Department of Parks and Recreation criteria, and pass MPD's clearance process. Volunteers are sought for two hour periods to:

- Work with young people and assist with supervision
- Lead programs in any of the following: arts, dance, crafts, photography, computer skills, yoga, zumba, literacy, creative writing, games and more!
- Provide front desk help
- Assist with scheduling, programming, and communication
- Help with fundraising
- Oversee drop-in play groups for young children

Volunteering is EASY and BACKGROUND CHECKS ARE FREE TO COMPLETE!

Contact the Sasha Bruce Youthwork Volunteer Coordinator George Burton to get started at gwbarton@sashabruce.org or call him at 202-675-9340 and specify Randall Recreation Center as your volunteer interest. *The Recreation Center will be open for visitors and volunteers on Friday, June 21st at 10:00 through 2:00 and may be open on Saturday June 22nd from 10:00 to 12:00.*

Funding for Sasha Bruce staffing, needed to oversee the facility and provide youth programming, is still being raised. If funding holds out, Sasha Bruce will keep Randall open through late August. To learn more about funding needs, call or write Eve Brooks at evebrooks@verizon.net or 202-460-5130.

space for special events."

July 2 is Neighborhood night at Nationals Park. It is also \$1 ice cream night. In fact, when buying tickets on the Nationals web site, putting SOUTHWEST in the coupon code blank will get you a deal on tickets any night.

At the end of the meeting, around 11 p.m., Mary Williams reported a community concern that a parking lot had sprung up on the 1300 block of South Capitol. About 200 cars were parking there on game days for \$20 each.

SWNA YATF to Host Safe Sitter Classes

By Thelma D. Jones

With school being out and the dog days of the summer upon us, the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Youth Activities Task Force (SWNA YATF) is poised to help support and sponsor summer programs for Southwest youth as it has done so in the past. SWNA YATF will be hosting a Safe Sitter class at the Randall Recreation Center beginning in July for adolescents ages 11-13. Taught by certified instructors, students will, among other things, discuss role play and practice caring for children in their charge, behavior management, first aid and safety, and choking and rescue breathing. The two and one half hour training will meet daily at 6:30 pm for two weeks (exact date to be announced). The training is free and will include materials and healthy snacks. Each participant is required to pass a test which helps to ensure that the student has mastered the skills of an effective Safe Sitter. For more information about the training or to register, please email thelma@thesouthwester.com or call (202) 251-1639.

Founded in 1985 as an all volunteer task force, SWNA YATF has been a certified Safe Sitter site for over a decade, including once holding the distinction for years of being the only certified Safe Sitter site in the nation's capital. To date, SWNA YATF has trained more than 50 Safe Sitters. Sixteen of these students were trained during a summer program held at Amidon-Bowen School a few years ago.

■ Thelma D. Jones is a veteran Safe Sitter instructor and the chair of SWNA-YATF

Let Nothing Disturb You

By Rev. Ida Moss, Senior Pastor • www.MyGreaterWorks.org



In Philippians 4:6 we are told, "do not be anxious about anything." The concept seems inconceivable. When we look at the many challenges before us it seems impossible not to worry. But the words from Philippians are filled with wisdom. Not one of us can think of a single time when worry helped to make a situation better. Worry anticipates trouble that may never come. As difficult as it may be, God expects us to take this life one day at a time. The cure for worry is to realize that TODAY I have all I need. Should an emergency arise tomorrow, we must believe that God will make a way for us to handle it.

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REPORT

From p. 9

presented a more definite proposal, with more environmental thought than the one presented last month. Four of the Commissioners agreed and two abstained on a plan that would let Riverfront operate this summer, with a hearing in September to see if they should get their normal license. Diane Schultz tweeted, "Riverfront at Ballpark discussion: kickball fields and bocce courts with restaurants and bars. There is also

King Greenleaf Kids Take the Field at Nationals Park

By Bruce DarConte,
Education Chair, CBCC

It was a perfect Saturday morning on May 25th for baseball and what better diamond to play on but the one at Nationals Park.

AMC 6D Commissioner Ron McBee, Coach Dino, and myself met about 25 kids at the King Greenleaf Recreation Center and walked over to the stadium. Upon arrival, each of the kids were checked in and given a Nationals baseball cap before entering the stadium. Once inside, the kids were broken up into groups and headed out to the field to loosen up. They stretched with Nationals trainer Steve Gober and ran bases with first base coach Tony Tarasco. The infield was roped off as it was being prepared for the evening game against Philadelphia, so everyone used the outfield.

Next, everyone took ground balls in center field with 3B coach Trent Jewett followed by fly balls in right field with bench coach Randy Knorr. The kids also shagged pop flies and practiced playing fly balls off the outfield wall.

Next in the rotation was throwing in the bullpen with the trio Steve McCatty, Jim Lett, and Octavio Martinez. I must admit, sitting in the bullpen was pretty exciting as I watched the kids throw some pitches.

Next up, everyone followed along the Warning Track into the Nationals dugout for a water break and it was time to talk nutrition with Steve Gober. He spoke about staying healthy and answered questions about his life.

The kids received some batting instruction,



such as not to crowd the plate and how to improve their swing.

Once the activities on the field had ended, everyone was invited to have lunch by the picnic area and ate turkey or ham sandwiches with carrots and a drink.

The day wasn't quite over yet as Roger Bernadina took a seat and signed autographs for the kids (and the adults) and we were given tickets to Sunday's game against our rivals, the Phillies.

At the game on Sunday, highlights of Saturday's clinic were shown on the screen and King Greenleaf was announced as part of the festivities. Our community kids had a wonderful time running the field, learning about team sportsmanship and got to spend a morning doing what most kids dream of, which is taking the field at a big league park.

Isn't that what it's all about?

Thanks to the Washington Nationals coaches, players, staff, and especially Coach Dino and Ron McBee who helped make this day special for our neighborhood kids.

Providing Tomorrow's Stars with the Resources They Need Today

By Ryan McGlynn

As part of the team's continuing efforts to increase youth participation in baseball and softball, the Washington Nationals, in partnership with the Baseball Tomorrow Fund, hosted their annual baseball equipment drive last month at Nationals Park.

The Nationals encouraged fans to donate new and used equipment of all kinds, from baseballs, softballs, bats, batting gloves and catcher's equipment to youth batting helmets, bases, baseball pants and cleats. In addition to the team's gameday collection numbers, various organizations delivered carloads of donations throughout the week that followed the drive. In total, the club collected more than 1,600 pieces of equipment to benefit the Capitol Hill Little League (CHLL), including more than 100 bats and 100 baseballs.

While the collection numbers alone are undoubtedly impressive, Nationals Senior Director of Community Relations Shawn Ber-

tani understands what the true benefits of these numbers are.

"This drive is about the impact the equipment can have on groups that are in need and really gives us the opportunity to engage with our fans and give them the opportunity to participate and play a role in the development of youth baseball," she said.

Earlier this season, CHLL incorporated King Greenleaf Recreation Center, a neighborhood program only four blocks from Nationals Park, into their expanding league. This move will help Greenleaf enhance their current program, which continues to grow in an area where basketball and football have previously dominated.

"Given the fact that Major League Baseball was absent from the DC market for more than a generation, we feel that it is our responsibility to help increase participation in youth baseball across the city," Bertani added. "As a result of these efforts, more participants will be able to play the national pastime right here in the Nation's Capital."

In addition to the equipment drive, Nationals shortstop Ian Desmond and Cathy Bradley, Director of the Baseball Tomorrow Fund, presented a \$5,000 grant to CHLL during a pregame ceremony the day of the drive. This is the seventh year the Baseball Tomorrow Fund has partnered with the Nationals to offer local youth programs a chance to provide tomorrow's baseball stars the resources they need to succeed on the field today.



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